

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MAY 17 2004

In re Application of

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Frederick C. CHRISTIANS *et al.*

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Serial No.: 10/684,205

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Group Art Unit: TBD

Filed: October 10, 2003

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Examiner: TBD

For: METHOD FOR DEPLETING SPECIFIC  
NUCLEIC ACIDS FROM A MIXTURE

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OFFICIAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4  
of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.